

ENGLAND IS ALIVE TO AIRSHIP VALUE

London, Oct. 21.—The recent disaster to the great naval airships at Barrow, and the sharp criticism of the press have, it is said, at last caused the British admiralty and war department to adopt saner views with regard to the development of military aeronautics in England. Four aeroplanes have been ordered from the Blériot Company in France, and a British war office expert is now in France attending the military competitions for heavier than air machines that are taking place at Rheims.

This complete change of official attitude is primarily due undoubtedly to the remarkable lessons taught by the army maneuvers held recently and almost simultaneously in France and Germany. Comparatively little notice has been taken in this country of the part played by aeroplanes at the maneuvers; yet the results obtained in utilizing the heavier than air machine for purposes of war cannot but have been most important. One may judge this from the fact that as soon as the operations came to a conclusion, the Kaiser, in one of his characteristic speeches, declared that the money spent on military aviation in Germany was quite insufficient. A few days later a semi-official announcement was issued to the effect that there would be a substantial increase for the purpose of aeroplanes in the German budget over the \$75,000 voted last year. Similarly, in France, the budget for 1912 for military aviation was at once raised to nearly \$1,000,000.

A New Airship Idea.
Curiously enough, simultaneously with the British government's decision to give up further experiments with dirigibles, comes the news that a young engineer of noble birth, Baron A. Roenne, has just been granted patent rights in England for an improved airship, which promises to be a wonder—if the invention can be successfully worked out.

Baron Roenne, who has already designed and built a number of dirigibles, believes he has solved the problem bearing on the equal distribution of weight in a lighter-than-air vessel. According to him the number of accidents to airships would have been almost nil had the constructor given greater importance to the question.

In order to preserve this essential requirement of "light," the inventor explained to me yesterday, "my airship will be so built that the passenger car will be exactly of the same length as the framework. Once I found the means of obtaining an equal distribution of weight, the remaining constructional details were comparatively easy to work out."

"As planned by myself, the new airship will have accommodation for 400 passengers and be capable of remaining aloft for at least a week. It will be fitted with fifteen motors, each developing 120-horsepower, and this aggregate power of 1,800 will, I am confident, enable her to travel at a speed of forty-five miles an hour, and this in a forty-mile wind."

Another wonderful feature of Baron Roenne's proposed airship is that at a height of 3,000 feet, it will be absolutely invisible. It is by the method of equalization of light and shade—that the inventor claims that it is impossible to secure invisibility for the airships while in the air.

The cover or envelope of the airship is made of chromium, a metal possessing a highly polished surface, which is perpetually retained by a covering of transparent varnish. Therefore, the metal is equivalent to a mirror, and it is by reflection that the invisibility is obtained. The surface and sides of the polished envelope naturally must reflect the same color—bright or murky, according to the weather and blend with its environment.

It is with the lower part of the polished balloon, which reflects the earth in its mirror, that the main difficulty of the invention was encountered. Being darker than the sky, the reflected earth must cause this part of the huge envelope to stand prominently in the lighter atmosphere. This difficulty is overcome by making the sides of the keel, which is to be as long as the balloon, also reflecting mirrors, and by placing on the keel triangular longitudinal ribs. With the aid of these ribs the keel reflects the shadow of itself onto the lower part of the balloon and thus obliterates the reflected darkness of the earth. In other words, it equalizes light and shade.

A Promising Pupil.
From the San Francisco Star.

St. Thomas College, at St. Paul, Minn., is one of the largest military schools in the United States. It is a Catholic institution, and is the pride and hope of Archbishop Ireland. One of the pupils is a Filipino boy.

One day not long ago the archbishop wished to speak to one of the professors and called the college on the telephone. The Filipino boy answered the ring.

"Is this St. Thomas?" inquired the archbishop.

"No, it is Pedro," replied the youth.

"Is this St. Thomas College I am speaking to?" demanded the archbishop.

"No, it is Pedro," the youth explained.

The archbishop sighed and then slowly and distinctly said to the youth: "This is the archbishop. I wish to speak to Prof. Jamieson."

"Who you say you are?" asked the Filipino.

"The archbishop, the archbishop," the churchman repeated with rising voice.

There was a short pause and then Pedro said: "Spell it."

The average rate of wages throughout the Chinese empire is 10 cents a day. Japan probably not more, and in India much less.

ELEVATED BY THE POPE.



MGR. CHARLES P. GRANNAN.

Just invested with the purple robes, has recently resigned from the theological faculty of the Catholic University. He will remain a member of the pontifical commission engaged in revising the Bible.

SCOTTISH RITE MASONS TO VISIT PIKE'S GRAVE

Pilgrimage to Glenwood Cemetery Will Be Made This Morning—Supreme Council Closes Session.

The supreme council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States closed its fifty-fifth biennial session last night at 10:29 o'clock at the House of the Temple.

Following the custom which has been observed since the death of Gen. Albert Pike, who was for years the sovereign grand commander of the Scottish Rite, all members of the Scottish Rite and their families will visit the grave of Gen. Pike, at Glenwood Cemetery this morning. Those who desire to make the trip will meet at the House of the Temple at 11 o'clock.

The most interesting feature of the meeting yesterday was the crowning of the sovereign grand inspectors general, who were Thomas J. Shryock, for Maryland; Hyman W. Witcover, for Georgia; Sam P. Cochran, for Texas; Perry Weidner, for Southern California and Arizona; William P. Filmer, for Northern California; and Philip Malcolm, for Oregon.

The Masonic fraternity in Maryland is greatly pleased over the elevation of Gen. Shryock to the highest degree in Masonry—thirty-third degree, active—which makes him sovereign grand inspector general for Maryland and a member of the Supreme Council. Gen. Shryock has been the grand master of Masons in Maryland for twenty-six years, and is the first sovereign grand inspector general that Maryland has had since the death of Gilmore Meredith in 1898.

Gen. Shryock has since been deputy for the Supreme Council in Maryland, and during the interim since the last session of the council the growth of the rite in Maryland has been proportionately greater than in any other jurisdiction. During the short time he has been in charge of the rite as for the Supreme Council, he has had all necessary paraphernalia and costumes procured for the conferring of the degrees, and has well organized work teams, which are now preparing for a

A Number of Tripolis.

From the London Chronicle.

Tripoli, which threatens to succeed Morocco as a sphere of acute international concern, bears a name which reappears in many other parts of the atlas—not counting Tripoli in Iowa, a case of mere modern borrowing. All the other Tripolis were named independently, each of them having been originally a "triple town" (tripolis in Greek). Thus the African country immediately in question was in Roman times the Regio Tripolitana, so called from the union of three cities—Oea (the modern town of Tripoli), Sabratha, and Leptis. Tripoli in Syria was a federal capital for Tyre, Sidon, and Aradus, each of them having its quarter (or rather third) of the town. Tripolitza in Greece stands for Mantinea, Tegea, and Pallantium. And there were and are several more of minor account.

A Pennsylvania electric railroad has adopted cars that may be used either for freight or passengers, the seats folding up against the sides when utilized for the former purpose.

FREE TRANSFERS WILL BE DEMAND

Continued from Page One.

their own eyes, whether the people of the District are in favor of them or not. Here we will have to part company with the honorable Commissioners. We expected that the Commissioners would be a halfway house, but we will have to pass them by and take our grievances direct to Congress.

Faith in the Committees.

Deploping the "untimely and unwise" agitation over the possibility of Congress changing the half-and-half financial plan of the District government as provided for in the organic act of 1878, the federation expressed its faith in the House and Senate District committees and its belief that Congress would accord the District as fair and honest treatment in the future as it had in the past.

A resolution providing for the representation of the District by a Delegate in Congress was introduced by Mr. McGrath and referred to a special committee, consisting of Mr. McGrath, Mr. Wood, and Mr. Dyer. Delegate Claffin read comprehensive statements in behalf of the resolution.

Mr. Lancaster introduced a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, providing that the District appropriation bill be considered in the future by the House and Senate District committees instead of by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Action on the increase in water rates was deferred until the regular meeting of the federation on the first Saturday in November, at which Commissioner Judson will be invited to attend and present an explanation of the reasons which actuated the District officials to place this additional burden of taxation upon the people of the city. A committee, composed of E. S. Clarkson and D. A. Edwards, was appointed to wait upon Maj. Judson.

Will Aid Pensioners.

A resolution pledging the efforts of the federation toward obtaining legislation to put the police and fire department pension fund on a proper basis was adopted. Mr. W. McK. Clayton, in speaking on the subject, said that under the present provisions, which make the Police Court fines one of the sources of revenue for the pension fund, the police are tempted to make undue arrests in order to sustain the fund.

A committee, consisting of Mr. Clarkson, Mr. Edwards, and Mr. Charles R. Hurt, was appointed to urge at the coming session of Congress the passage of a bill providing for the drilling of deep flowing wells throughout the city. Mr. W. McK. Clayton said in behalf of the proposition that there are many distressing cases of poor persons in the summer who are unable to buy ice, but whose condition would be relieved by the drilling of wells at intervals throughout the district. Mr. Clayton also suggested that the wells might put an end to the rapidly disappearing practice of "flushing the groves."

At present there are only a few wells in the city, the former ones having been removed upon the recommendation of the health department, which stated that they were under a sanitary standpoint. Mr. Clayton said that a number of wells have been drilled at school buildings in the suburbs recently, how-

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ever, and that the water had stood the test of the health department as to purity.

A resolution was adopted favoring a bill compelling the railway companies to extend their lines into Rock Creek Park, so that the reservation may be made accessible to those who are prevented from enjoying its pleasures because of the lack of transportation facilities. This movement has already received the endorsement of several associations, among which is the Citizens' Northwest Suburban Association.

Half Rates Sought.

Members of the committee to consider the matter of obtaining half-rate fares for school children on the railway cars of the city were directed to interview officials of the railway companies in regard to their stand in the matter. The committee consists of Mr. McGrath, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Cromwell.

A resolution for the abolition of capi-

tal punishment in the District was introduced and referred to a special committee for consideration. The committee is composed of Mr. McGrath, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Dutton.

Col. Lancaster introduced a measure opposing the recommendation of the District assessor to change the present assessments from a triennial to an annual basis. The resolution states that the interests of the people would be best served by a continuation of the present system. The measure also denies the right of the assessor to make such recommendation without first getting an expression of public sentiment in the matter. Col. Lancaster, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Richardson were appointed to serve on the committee.

The proposition recently endorsed by the Brightwood Citizens' Association, providing for elaborate preparations for the next Presidential inauguration, was discussed briefly, and it was decided to defer action on it until the next meeting of the Federation.

Edward Clarkson and Allan Davis, in a special report to the federation, recommended that a movement be inaugurated for the establishment of a public stadium, drill ground, and athletic field in the District for the benefit of the school children.

The committee also recommended the establishment of playgrounds adjoining school buildings. The report states that the playgrounds could be conducted more efficiently if they were established near the school buildings.

Three Weeks' Mission Planned.

Mr. Russell, of St. Patrick's Church, yesterday announced a three weeks' mission, to begin Sunday, October 29, in charge of the fathers of the New York Mission Band. Each evening the services will begin at 7:30 o'clock. The first week will be for women, the second for men, and the third for non-Catholics.

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